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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/722,096	11/26/2003	Raymond J. LeBlanc	87321.1740	7160

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EXAMINER	
PAUL, DISLER	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2635	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/04/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/722,096	LEBLANC ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Disler Paul	2635	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-7 and 11-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shdema et al.("US 2002/0072816 A1").

Re claim 1, Shdema discloses an automation system for speaker amplifier("*fig.1& fig.4;page 2[0010] line 4-5; page 1[0002] line 5-7 and furthermore see page 2[0011] line 15-17 & page 4[0041] line 6-9*") setup, comprising: a computer-readable storage medium containing a set of commands that implement speaker amplifier system panel setup functions("*fig.2/(120);page 4[0039] line 5-6-cpu in which commands are stored*"); a signal source capable of transmitting command signals conforming to the command set contained on said computer-readable storage medium ("*fig.3/(140,142);page 1[0003] line 11;fig.1/(102,104,106)& page 4[0037]*"); a speaker amplifier system panel capable of executing said set of commands; and a functional element of said speaker amplifier system panel capable of receiving said command signals("*fig.1/(114) ,fig.4/(164,166-172);page 2[0010] line 7-8-speakers connect to audio management so to execute commands such as page 2[0012] line 9-13 & fig.4/ command from(152) may be obatained at (174) for each speaker amplifier*");.

Re claim 2, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, wherein said signal source further comprises: a human interface subsystem supporting command and

configuration input("*fig.1/104; page 4[0034] line 5-6; page 4[0037] line 3-5-enable to inputs commands/functions*") and display for said control processor unit("*page 1[0004] line 18-20; page 2[0008] line 26-30*"); a nonvolatile storage subsystem storing and retrieving data on behalf of said signal source unit("*page 5[0050] line 1-10-always recall previous setting denotes nonvolatile memory is available and further storage unit is disclosed*"); and a communications subsystem establishing a communication link between said speaker amplifier system panel and said signal source("*fig.1/116;page 4[0036]; page 3 line 0014] line 3-6*").

Re claim 3, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, further comprising: at least one speaker amplifier ("*fig.7/(216)*"), wherein said speaker amplifier is capable of bidirectional digital communication with said speaker amplifier system panel("*page 3 [0014] line 9-11-detect sound from speaker & produce acoustic parameter denotes two-way information & further page 7[0078] and furthermore see page 2[0008] line 33-36*"); and a communications network connecting said speaker amplifier system panel and said speaker amplifier("*fig.1/116;page 4[0036]; page 3 line 0014] line 3-6*"), said network conveying digitally transmitted instructions from said speaker amplifier system panel to said speaker amplifier("*fig.3/142*").

Re claim 4, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, further comprising: at least one speaker amplifier("*fig.7/216*"), wherein said speaker amplifier receives and audibly reproduces analog audio signals ("*page 1[003] line 24-26; page 7[0072] line 1-5*").

Re claim 5, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 2, wherein said human interface subsystem further comprises: a video display, whereupon said display output of said configuration status display routine can displayed ("*page 5[0048] line 11-14*"); a keyboard-type data entry device wherewith data and commands comprising keystrokes may be

entered ; and a mouse-type data entry device, wherewith position data and mouse-click commands may be entered ("*page 5[0048] line 14-16*");.

Re claim 6, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 2, wherein said nonvolatile storage subsystem further comprises a disk drive ("*page 5[0050] line 9-11; fig.2/120*"), interface electronics("*fig.1/104*"), and storage-/retrieval-support operating system software("*page 7[0078] line 5-6;page 1[0007] line 5-9*").

Re claim 7, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 2, wherein said communications subsystem further comprises a bidirectional communications port and interface electronics ("*fig.4/(108) router serve as port for two-way communication as explain in page 3 [0014] line 9-11 furthermore fig.1/where speaker amplifier(114) may interface with (102,104,106) via (108) and furthermore see page 2[0008] line 33-36*")").

Re claim 11, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, wherein said signal source further comprises: a command transmittal routine("*page 7[0070];fig.4/command from(152)*"); a system monitor routine("*page 4[0041] line 1-6;page 4[0038] line 1-3;fig.1/102 & further more fig.2/130; page 1[0007] line 24-26*"); a system status report generator("*page 5[0050] line 1-3*"); and a configuration status display routine for generating a display output("*page 2[0008] line 26-31;fig.2/(104,120)-display available for status configuration to be seen*"), wherein said configuration status display is a representation of said commands and said system status reports("*page 4[0037] line 3& page 4[0042] line 2-6; page 5[0050] line 1-4;fig.2/ status from(126) is displayed at (104,120) for user to interface with accordingly*") .

Re claim 12, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 11, wherein said command transmittal routine transmits a command that exerts control over said speaker amplifier system panel("*fig.4/command from(152) controls(164) via(174);further see page 8[0085] line 5-10*").

Re claim 13, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, wherein said set of commands permits a multiplicity of command signals to be issued("*page 6[0061] line 4-7*").

Re claim 14, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, wherein each command signal issued from said signal source is directed to one digitally enabled system device("*fig.7/212*").

Re claim 15, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 1, wherein said speaker amplifier system panel senses, interprets, executes, and replies to those commands from said set of commands that are addressed uniquely to said speaker amplifier system panel("*page 2[0013] line 9-14;page 3[0014] line 9-11*").

Re claim 16, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 2,wherein said nonvolatile storage subsystem further comprises a data backup("page 2[0011] line 15-16; storage routine ("*page 5[0050] line 8-9;page 5[0047] line 5-7;page 5[0048] line 19-22-update being done on back up data* "), wherein said data backup and storage routine records system status, as generated by said system status report generator("*fig.2/(126,120)-generate status(126) may be displayed(104,120)*"), to said nonvolatile storage.

Re claim 17, an automation system for speaker amplifier setup, comprising: means for processing electronic signals("*fig.2/120*"); means for communicating between said processing means and a speaker amplifier system panel("*fig.1/108,fig.2/150*"); and means for configuring said speaker amplifier system panel in response to signals from said processing means("*page 2[0008] line 8 & 21-23-programs/protocol*").

Re claim 18, the speaker amplifier setup automation system of claim 17, further comprising means for interrogating said speaker amplifier system panel by an interrogation routine("*fig.2/126; page 5[0050] line 1-3-status/interrogate*").

Re claim 19, the speaker amplifier setup automation system of claim 17, further comprising means for recovering system configuration information from automated records of the status of a system panel maintained in nonvolatile storage media("*fig.2/104-mean in recovering system info*").

Re claim 20, the speaker amplifier setup automation system of claim 17, further comprising means for visually representing information related to at least one of the identity, functional properties, and condition of said speaker amplifier system panel("*Page 2[0008] line 26-30; fig.2/(104,120)*").

Re claim 21, Shdema et al. discloses a method for configuring a speaker amplifier system panel("*fig.1-2;fig.7*"), comprising: executing a configuration status acquisition routine ("*page 2[0012] line 11-12-detect/acquire status of speaker amplifier; page 3[0030] line 3-6; page 3[0031]*"); executing a configuration status report generator("*fig.2/126;page 5[0050] line 1-3*"); executing a configuration status display routine generating a display output that represents the acquired configuration status report("*fig.2/(104,12);page 2[0008] line 26-31;fig.2/(104,120)-display available for status configuration to be seen*"),; generating a configuration change

command; and executing a command transmittal to a speaker amplifier system panel("*fig.4/command from(152) controls(164) via(174);further see page 8[0085] line 5-10*").

Re claim 22, the method for configuring a speaker amplifier system panel of claim 21, further comprising: executing a sequencing routine that can issue a multiplicity of command signals("*page 6[0061] line 4-7*"), wherein each command signal is directed to one speaker amplifier system panel and exercises at least one command function of an executable speaker amplifier system panel setup command routine("*page 2[0013] line 9-14;page 3[0014] line 9-11*").

Re claim 23, the method for configuring a speaker amplifier system panel of claim 21, further comprising: executing a data writing and reading routine("*fig.2/(104,120)*"), wherein the data writing and reading routine records and retrieves system status data in nonvolatile storage, as generated by the system status report generator("*fig.2/status generator(126) is stored in (120)*").

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8-10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shdema et al.("US 2002/0072816 A1")as applied to claim 7 above, and further in view of Polan et al.(US 6,892,167 B2").

Re claim 8, Shdema et al. fail to disclose the communications subsystem further comprises an RS-485 bidirectional differential serial peripheral communications port and interface electronics. However, Polan et al. discloses a data acquisition system in which there exist an RS-485 bidirectional differential serial peripheral communications port and interface electronics("*fig.2/50; col.6 line 34*") for the purpose of transmitting/receiving data.

Thus taking the combined teaching of Shdema et al. and Polan et al. as a whole, it would have been obvious for one in the ordinary skill in the art to modify Shdema et al. by incorporating the RS-485 bidirectional differential serial peripheral communications port and interface electronics for the purpose of transmitting/receiving data as taught by Polan et al.

Re claim 9, the automation system for speaker amplifier setup of claim 7, wherein said communications subsystem further comprises an IEEE Ethernet. bidirectional serial peripheral communications port and interface electronics (Shdema et al, "*page 3[0029] line 12; fig.4/(108) router serve as port for two-way communication as explain in page 3 [0014] line 9-11 furthermore fig.1/where speaker amplifier(114) may interface with (102,104,106) via (108)*").

Re claim 10, has been analyzed and rejected with respect to claim 9 respectively.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ibey ("US 2003/0220705A1") pertains to an automation system for speaker amplifier with commands store in computer enable to execute such speaker amplifier.

Contact

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Disler Paul whose telephone number is 571-272-2222. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vu Le can be reached on 571-272-2000. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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